vegetables is estimated to be about Rs. 33,000 crore occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting like inadequate post-harvest infrastructure, lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage and processing facilities etc. Level of processing of fruit and vegetables in the country is estimated to be around 2.20%. For promotion of fruit and vegetables processing industries, under plan schemes of Ministry of Food Procesing Industries, financial assistance is provided in the form of grant for setting up of a new unit or for expansion of existing unit. Further, other schemes of Ministry promote fruit and vegetables processing industries through Infrastructure Development, Quality Assurance, Human Resource Development etc. besides other agencies of Government of India like NHB, APEDA, NCDC and State Government also provide assistance under their respective schemes.

(c) and (d) Vision 2015 on Food Processing Industries has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, which envisages cluster based and demand driven farming, achieving integration of food processing infrastructure from farm to market and promoting dynamic food processing industry which could result in trebling the size of the processed food sector by increasing the level of processing of perishables from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. The realization of Vision 2015 is expected to generate 1.8 million direct and 6.4 million indirect employment for unemployed youths. In the farming sector, employment generation will cover landless labourers, small and marginal farmers, on farm extension services, cleaning, grading, packing, transportation sector, cold chain, input supply, industrial processing, storage, distribution centres and retail/marketing, logistic etc.

Setting up of food safety and Standard Authority of India

4126. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has decided to set up the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India which has been a long standing demand of the industry, to facilitate the implementation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006;

(b) whether Food Safety and Standards Bill, 2005 became an Act on 23rd August, 2006 but it cannot be implemented without the setting up of FSSAI;

(c) if so, by when a final decision in setting up Food Safety and Standard Authority of India is likely to be taken; and

(d) the extent to which it will be helpful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (d) Keeping in view the long standing demand from various stakeholders including industry, Government has enacted Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 which has been notified on 24.08.2006. The Act envisages setting up of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate the manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import of articles of food by companies/food business, to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare being the nodal Ministry for administration and enforcement of the Food Safety and Standards Act 2006 has initiated action for setting up of the authority (FSSAI).

Food processing for Agri-products

4127. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the total per cent of agri-products, which are being processed in the Food Processing Industries in different States and the details thereof, State-wise and item-wise; and

(b) the steps being taken to increase further food processing of different agri-products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY) (a) and (b) According to a study commissoned by the Ministry, the level of processing in the agri and allied products in the organized and unorganized sector in the country is as follows: